

#23

Interview Summary

Application No.

08/516,646

Applicant(s)

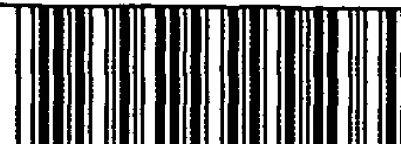
TUCK, et al.

Examiner

JOSEPH THOMAS

Group Art Unit

2747



All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) JOSEPH THOMAS

(3) _____

(2) DAVID W. CARSTENS (Reg. No. 34,134)

(4) _____

Date of Interview May 4, 1999Type: ☒ Telephonic ☐ Personal (copy is given to ☐ applicant ☐ applicant's representative).Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: ☐ Yes ☒ No. If yes, brief description:Agreement ☒ was reached. ☐ was not reached.Claim(s) discussed: 17, in particular, and 16 & 18-39, in general

Identification of prior art discussed:

Salmon et al. (5,592,375), Fychte article ("Wheeling in Canada"), and the "Background of the Invention" section of the application, in general

Description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

The Examiner and Applicant's Representative discussed claims 16-39 of the amendment filed 2/24/99. The Examiner indicated that claims 16 and 18-39 appeared to recite a patentable distinction over the prior art of record; however, claim 17 appeared to be incomplete in that it merely recited the connection of two participants to a database display and the display of a price and reliability indicator. The Examiner suggested inserting the step of "computing a performance index associated with a reliability for either participant" between steps (c) & (d) of claim 17 to better recite the invention by providing a better nexus between the claimed steps. Applicant's Representative agreed to incorporate the language proposed by the Examiner and will submit the change via a faxed Preliminary Amendment. Upon the receiving and entering such an amendment, Examiner will reconsider the rejection and submit the application for issue.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments, if available, which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments which would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

1. ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview.

Unless the paragraph above has been checked to indicate to the contrary, A FORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION IS NOT WAIVED AND MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a response to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW.

2. ☒ Since the Examiner's interview summary above (including any attachments) reflects a complete response to each of the objections, rejections and requirements that may be present in the last Office action, and since the claims are now allowable, this completed form is considered to fulfill the response requirements of the last Office action. Applicant is not relieved from providing a separate record of the interview unless box 1 above is also checked.

Examiner Note: You must sign and stamp this form unless it is an attachment to a signed Office action.